**United States Department of the Interior**National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

received NOV 2 3 36 date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*Type all entries—complete applicable sections

A BI	approante sections		
1. Name			
historic Mathew Eylar E	Barn (1) - Byre and Bluff I	Barns of Doniphan Co	unty (TR)
and or common Anderso	on Barn		
2. Location	5 of Denton, OFF	K5 20	
street & number NE1, SW1	4, SW <sup>1</sup> 2, SW <sup>1</sup> 2, S35, T4S, R191	<b>5</b>	not for publication
city, town Denton	X_ vicinity of		
state Kansas	code 20 coun	עי Doniphan	<b>code</b> 43
3. Classificat	tion		
Category  — district — public — yelding(s) — structure — site — object — N/A in procent	voccupied unoccupied work in progres uisition Accessible ess yes: restricted	entertainment government	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:
4. Owner of I	Property		
name Anderson Ridge	Farms & Lowell Anderson		
city, town Denton	X vicinity of	state	Kansas 66017
5. Location o	of Legal Descript	tion	
courthouse, registry of deeds,	etc. Registry of Deeds		annika kuruyumu paki ni makis ya afare enformasi i sani kawa esa konince yakakuni sakishi a darak
street & number Doniph	an County Courthouse		
sity, town Troy		state	Kansas 66087
	ation in Existing		Namsas COCO7
300F	Survey	property been determined e	
date 1985			ite county _X_ loca
lepository for survey records	Kansas State Historical S	ociety, 120 W. 10th	
ity, town Topeka	4.3	state	Kansas 66612

				detec
Condition  excellent  good  fair	deteriorated ruins unexposed	Check one unalteredX_ altered	Check one _X original site moved date	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

7 Description

The Mathew Eylar Barn (1) (ca. 1933) is located on the Anderson Farm near Denton, Kansas (pop. 156). The one-story, center entrance, vertically planked, metal sheathed, gambrel roof barn is built into the side of a bluff with a cement supporting wall. The superstructure is supported by nailed balloon framing. The barn has a north to south orientation, measuring one hundred and twenty feet from east to west and fifty-two feet from north to south. The barn is built into the northern bluff.

The northern elevation is comprised of a center, projecting, gabled entrance with hinged, double leaf doors. The metal sheathed, gambrel roof slopes flank the doorway on either side. Two rectangular window openings light the upper gambrel sides of the east and west elevations. Access to the basement level is provided on the western side. The southern elevation is comprised of a centrally projecting gable with rectangular window openings. The gable is flanked by the two sided slope of the gambrel roof and underscored by a projecting shed roof which covers the loafing parlour. Access to the basement is provided through the loafing parlour. The interior maintains its wagonway access from the northern elevation but that is the only extant upper story flooring in the barn. The barn is painted red.

Originally constructed as a stock barn for Angus cattle, the barn is now used for hog raising. The building maintains a high degree of architectural and structural integrity. The significant alteration to the barn has been the replacement of the original roof with the current metal sheathing. This is an alteration common to many of the barns included in this nomination.

#### 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899X 1900~	Areas of Significance—Carcheology-prehistoricagricultureX_architectureartcommercecommunications	community planning landscape architecture law literature	religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	Ca. 1933	Builder/Architect Unknown	

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Mathew Eylar Barn (1) (ca. 1933) is being nominated to the National Register as part of the Byre and Bluff Barns of Doniphan County (ca. 1860-1933) nomination under criterion C for its architectural significance. Constructed for Mathew Eylar in 1933, the large gambrel roof, cement bluff wall barn served Eylar's large Angus cattle breeding operation with its sister structure, the Mathew Eylar Barn II. Eylar, a Doniphan County native, managed the Hatch Book Typewriter Company in New York City before establishing the cattle breeding operation. Eylar sold his large farm in 1944, the property is now owned by the Anderson family.

The eighteen nominated barns share a common feature in that at least one side of each barn's foundation is embedded in an earthen bank or bluff; the majority of the barns are built into shallow banks, two of the barns are built into bluffs. These vernacular wooden and cement structures span a seventy year construction period and exhibit various masonry foundations, skeletal structures, and superstructures. The byre and bluff barns of Doniphan County are an excellent example of a vernacular form of architecture which was built to take advantage of the hilly topography of the county. These barns are representative of approximately thirty byre and bluff barns identified in a 1984-1985 cultural resource survey of Doniphan County. The remaining barns are too altered and/or deteriorated to be included in this nomination. Most of the nominated barns were constructed for stock and dairy cattle and remain in active use on working farms. The relative rarity of byre and bluff barns in Doniphan County and the high degree of architectural and structural integrity maintained by the nominated barns make this thematic grouping of vernacular agricultural structures extremely significant.

Doniphan County (est. 1855) experienced a substantial population increase in the twenty years following the Civil War, with many settlers moving from Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Germany. The barn building traditions brought by these settlers combined with the suitable topography contributed to the building of the byre and bluff barn type in Doniphan County. Most of the nominated barns are three-bay, center entrance, gable roof structures with limestone foundations, a full byre, a threshing floor, and a hay loft. There are groupings of period types, such as the board and batten barns with louvered vents from the 1870s and 1880s, the large, gambrel roof barns from 1910s, 1920s and 1930s, and the gradual transition from post and beam construction to plank framing. In 1891 J. D. Walters of the Kansas State Agricultural College called the byre (bank)/bluff barn an "all-purpose barn of the Kansas farmer" in an article entitled "The Barn," which was published in the Quarterly Report of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture. Walters described the bank barn as follows:

It gives a warm basement for the milk cows and cattle, and an accessible second story for the draught animals—for tools, machines, harness, and grain—and a roomy attic, or loft, for hay, straw, and fodder. In many states this form is objectionable for sanitary reasons, but in the dry climate of Kansas it is preferable to any other, unless there should be an

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unusually moist ledge directly against or under it... The building should be located so that the basement will be partly in the ground on the north and west, and so that a low embankment, or filling, on these sides will give access to the second story.

While the byre or bluff barn presented a practical solution for Doniphan County's rolling topography, harsh winters, and high winds, it was not the most common solution. The byre and bluff barns built between 1860 and 1933 generally cost from \$2,000.00 to \$3,000.00 and while this may have been cost effective investment, it was an expensive investment. In addition, the higher degree of skilled craftsmanship required to construct a byre or bluff barn as opposed to most barns without foundations also hindered their construction. While the byre and bluff barns of Doniphan County are a sturdy survivor of a barn type built in Doniphan County between 1860 and 1933 they are not prolific, being far outnumbered by more inexpensive, rectangular wooden barns without foundations.

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9.	Major	Bibliogr	phical	References

See attached sheet

10.	Geograpi	nical Data				THE RESIDENCE OF THE PROPERTY
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ity or t	own Topeka			state Kan	sas 66612	
2.		storic Pres	ervatio	n Offic	er Certifi	cation
	luated significance of	this property within the	state is:			
365), I h accordi	ereby nominate this pand to the criteria and p	ric Preservation Office roperty for inclusion in procedures set forth by	the National Reg	ister and certif	y that it has been eva	iluated
State H	storic Preservation Of	ficer signature	July WIII	<u> </u>		
itie	Executive Direct	or, Kan <u>sas State</u>	Historical S	ociety	date October 2	8, 1986
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BIBLIOGRAPHY-Byre and Bluff Barns of Doniphan County

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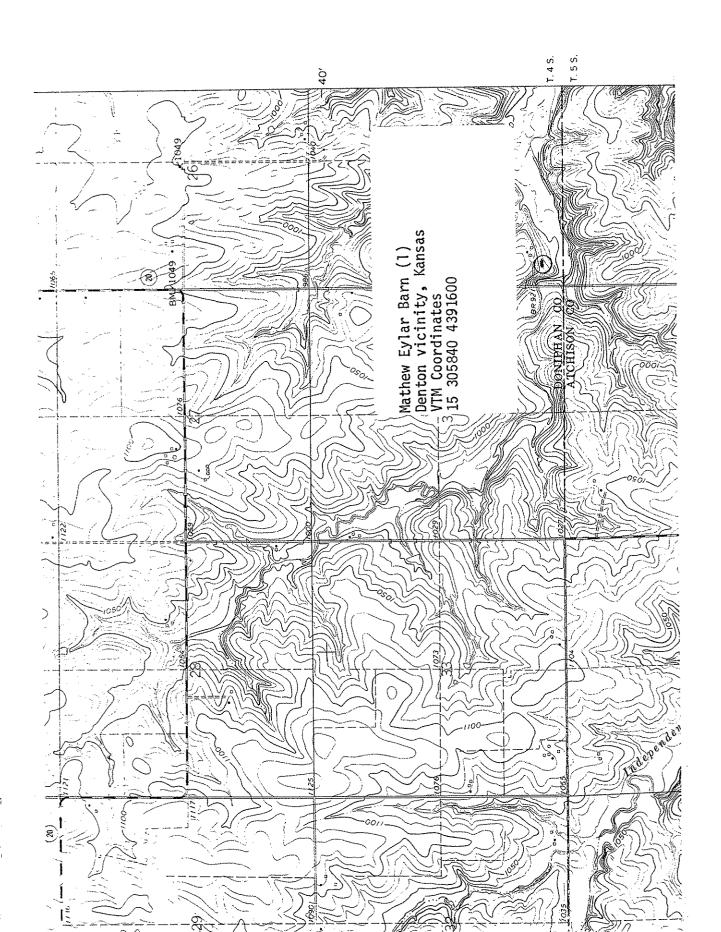
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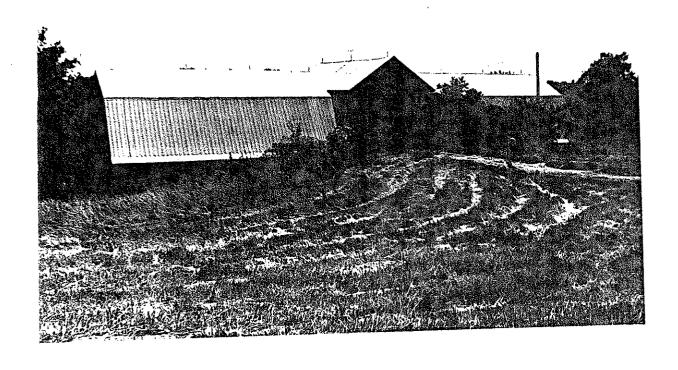
Mathew Eylar Barn (1)
Denton vicinity, Kansas
Martha Hagedorn
July, 1986
Kansas State Historical Society
West & South elevations, NE view
1 of 3

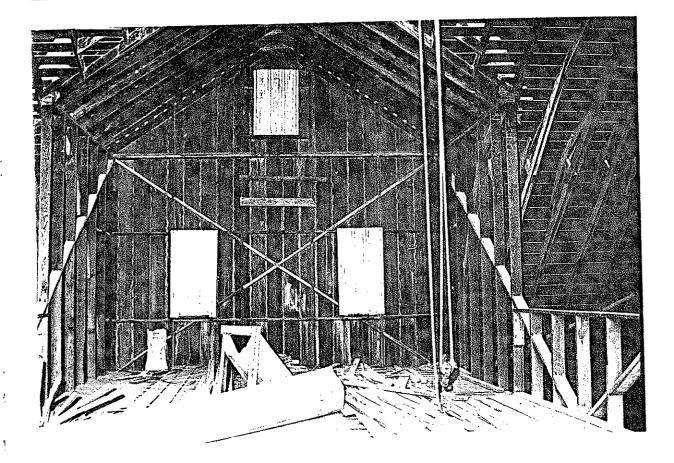
Mathew Eylar Barn (1)
Denton vicinity, Kansas
Martha Hagedorn
July, 1986
Kansas State Historical Society
North & East elevations, SW view
2 of 3

Mathew Eylar Barn (1)
Denton vicinity, Kansas
Martha Hagedorn
July, 1986
Kansas State Historical Society
Second level, South view
3 of 3

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